Fiscal Estimate - 2007 Session

\boxtimes	Original		Updated		Corrected		Supple	mental				
LRB	Number	07-3585/2		Intro	duction Nu	ımber	AB-080	6				
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□ Create New Appropriations □ Decrease Costs Local: □ No Local Government Costs ☑ Indeterminate 5.Types of Local Government Units Affected 1. □ Increase Costs 3. □ Increase Revenue □ Permissive □ Mandatory □ Permissive □ Mandatory 2. □ Decrease Costs 4. □ Decrease Revenue □ Permissive □ Mandatory □ Counties □ Counties □ Others □ School □ WTCS □ Districts □ Districts												
Fund Sources Affected Affected Ch. 20 Appropriations GPR FED PRO PRS SEG SEGS												
Agen	cy/Prepared I	Зy	1	Authorized	Signature		,	Date				
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Fiscal Estimate Narratives DPI 2/27/2008

LRB Number	07-3585/2	Introduction Number	AB-0806	Estimate Type	Original					
Description										
An official state language, use of English for governmental written expression, and requiring state agencies										

An official state language, use of English for governmental written expression, and requiring state agencies and local governmental units to provide separate line items for the costs of documents and other materials that are not in English

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

Assembly Bill 806 provides that the official language of this state is English.

The bill provides that, unless otherwise specifically required by law, all written expression by all units of state and local government in this state shall be in the English language, except that such expression may be in another language when appropriate to the circumstances of an individual case, the implementation of a program in a specific instance, or the discharge of a responsibility in a particular situation.

The bill requires each state agency to maintain a separate line in its state operations appropriation account for all costs related to the preparation, translation, printing, and recording of documents, records, brochures, pamphlets, flyers, or other material in languages other than English. It would also be required that any local unit of government that has the authority to levy a general property tax (a city, village, town, county, school district, and technical college district) as well as the City of Milwaukee and Milwaukee County must include a separate appropriation in their budgets for such costs.

State Fiscal Effect: The Department of Public Instruction provides most of its communications in the English language. Depending on the intended audience for certain materials, the department has had documents, pamphlets and flyers translated and printed in Spanish and Hmong. These items are minimal.

At the Wisconsin School for the Deaf, the primary language is American Sign Language. At the Wisconsin School for the Blind and Visually Impaired, most documents are in Braille to meet the needs of the pupils. Again, in these instances, the department determines its audience and accommodates by using the language necessary.

Local Fiscal Effect: In recent years, school districts have seen a greater number of English language learners (ELL) in their schools. In order to serve these pupils, it may be necessary to have various materials in a language(s) besides English and it is expected that districts will continue to produce these materials for their ELL-related programs. In 2006-07, 5% of Wisconsin's K-12 pupils were ELL (2.8% Spanish speaking, 1.3% Hmong speaking, and 0.9% other). There may be indeterminate costs to districts to change their accounting systems to possibly maintain a separate line for translation-related costs and services.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications